

ORIGINAL

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
FORT WORTH DIVISION**

**ALICIA WATT,  
Petitioner,**

**VS.**

**JOE KEFFER, Warden,  
FMC-Carswell,  
Respondent.**

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**CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:11-CV-521-Y**

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE  
AND NOTICE AND ORDER**

This cause of action was referred to the United States Magistrate Judge pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b), as implemented by an order of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas. The Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate Judge are as follows:

**I. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

**A. NATURE OF THE CASE**

This is a petition for writ of habeas corpus by a federal prisoner pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241.

**B. PARTIES**

Petitioner Alicia Watt, Reg. No. 36966-044, is a federal prisoner incarcerated in FMC-Carswell in Fort Worth, Texas.

Respondent Joe Keffer is Warden of FMC-Carswell. No service has issued upon respondent.

### C. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On February 28, 2011, in the Eastern District of Missouri, petitioner was sentenced to a 21-month term of imprisonment for mail fraud. (Pet. ) *See United States v. Watt*, PACER, Case Locator, Criminal Docket for # 4:10-CR-333-CEJ-1. Petitioner did not appeal her conviction or sentence nor does the docket reflect that she filed a § 2255 motion to vacate in the convicting court. *Id.* Petitioner filed this federal petition under § 2241 in this division, where she is currently serving her sentence.

### D. DISCUSSION

By the instant habeas corpus action, petitioner raises one ground, wherein she claims there was an error in her presentence report resulting in an erroneous calculation of her sentence under the advisory guidelines and a higher sentence. (Pet'r "2241 Supplemental/Memorandum")

Typically, 28 U.S.C. § 2241 is used to challenge the manner in which a sentence is executed. *See Warren v. Miles*, 230 F.3d 688, 694 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); *Evans v. Jeter*, 215 Fed. Appx. 374, 375 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2007) (not designated for publication in the Federal Reporter). Section 2255, on the other hand, is the primary means under which a federal prisoner may collaterally attack the legality of her conviction or sentence.<sup>1</sup> *See Cox v. Warden, Fed. Det. Ctr.*, 911 F.2d 1111, 1113 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1990).

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<sup>1</sup>It is recognized that § 2241 may be used by a federal prisoner to challenge the legality of a conviction or sentence if she can satisfy the mandates of the so-called § 2255 "savings clause." *See Reyes-Requena v. United States*, 243 F.3d 893, 901 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2001). Section 2255 provides that a prisoner may file a writ of habeas corpus if a remedy by § 2255 motion is "inadequate or ineffective to test the legality of [her] detention." *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2255. To establish that a § 2255 motion is inadequate or ineffective, the prisoner must show that: (1) her claim is based on a retroactively applicable Supreme Court decision, (2) her claim was foreclosed by circuit law at the time when the claim should have been raised in her trial, appeal, or first § 2255 motion, and (3) that retroactively applicable decision establishes that the petitioner may have been convicted of a nonexistent offense. *See Garland v. Roy*, 615 F.3d 391, 394 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2010); *Reyes-Requena*, 243 F.3d at 904.

Because petitioner's claim involves a collateral attack on her sentence, the claim must be asserted in a § 2255 motion, and the only court with jurisdiction to determine such a motion is the convicting court, *i.e.*, the St. Louis Division of the Eastern District of Missouri.

Petitioner is precluded from challenging the legality of her sentence under § 2241. The court is without jurisdiction to consider the petition. *See Padilla v. United States*, 416 F.3d 424, 427 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2005); *Christopher v. Miles*, 342 F.3d 378, 379, 385 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003).

## **II. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that petitioner's petition for writ of habeas corpus under § 2241 be DISMISSED for lack of jurisdiction.

## **III. NOTICE OF RIGHT TO OBJECT TO PROPOSED FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION AND CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO OBJECT**

A copy of this report and recommendation shall be served on all parties in the manner provided by law. Any party who objects to any part of this report and recommendation must file specific written objections within 10 days after being served with a copy. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b). The court is extending the deadline within which to file specific written objections to the United States Magistrate Judge's proposed findings, conclusions, and recommendation until September 1, 2011. In order to be specific, an objection must identify the specific finding or recommendation to which objection is made, state the basis for the objection, and specify the place in the magistrate judge's report and recommendation where the disputed determination is found. An objection that merely incorporates by reference or refers to the briefing before the magistrate judge is not specific. Failure to file specific written objections will bar the aggrieved party from appealing the factual findings and legal conclusions of the magistrate judge that

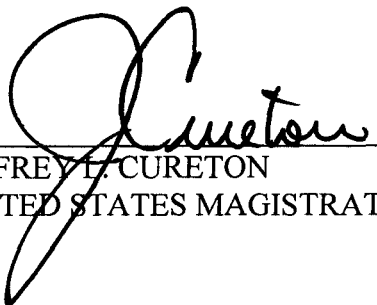
are accepted or adopted by the district court, except upon grounds of plain error. *See Douglass v. United Services Automobile Ass'n*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1417 (5th Cir. 1996).

#### IV. ORDER

Under 28 U.S.C. § 636, it is ordered that each party is granted until September 1, 2011, to serve and file written objections to the United States Magistrate Judge's proposed findings, conclusions, and recommendation. It is further ordered that if objections are filed and the opposing party chooses to file a response, a response shall be filed within seven (7) days of the filing date of the objections.

It is further ordered that the above-styled and numbered action, previously referred to the United States Magistrate Judge for findings, conclusions, and recommendation, be and hereby is returned to the docket of the United States District Judge.

SIGNED August 11, 2011.



JEFFREY E. CURETON  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE